



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 2001

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage	Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property Crops	

MICHIGAN, East

MIZ048>049-053>054 Bay - Huron - Saginaw - Tuscola

07	2300EST	0	0	Ice Storm
08	1300EST			

Low pressure in the plains pushed a warm front north across the Ohio Valley. Precipitation broke out north of the warm front, in the form of a wintry mix. Near Saginaw Bay, much of this mix took the form of freezing rain. Huron County was the exception, seeing 5 inches of snow mix in with a quarter inch of ice. In general, minimal glaze formed on ground surfaces. Instead, ice accumulations were generally confined to power lines, tree branches, and overpasses. The ice accumulations, about a quarter to a half inch, did not persist long, as temperatures warmed and changed the freezing rain to rain. As a result, the ice caused little damage.

MIZ049

Huron

09	0300EST	0	0	4K	Flood
11	1200EST				

Ice jams on the Sebewaing River forced water back through the storm sewer system in Sebewaing. Several streets in the city were flooded.

MIZ063

St. Clair

09	1000EST	0	0	220K	Flood
14	1800EST				

Mill Creek flooded in Yale, washing out several roads and flooding the city park. In the southern part of the county, the Belle River flooded. Four young men had to be rescued after driving into flood waters in China Township; they climbed nearby trees to get out of the water. An ice jam in Marine City exacerbated flooding on the Belle on the 12th, forcing gas service to be shut off to several riverside homes. Basements were flooded in the city of St. Clair. The worst flooding was in the Port Huron area, where the Black River rose out of its banks. A mobile home park was covered in water 2 to 3 feet deep. Sandbagging was needed to protect riverside homes. Flood waters damaged fences and floated away picnic tables at area parks. Three people had to be rescued from a stalled-out vehicle in Fort Gratiot on the 9th. Many basements were flooded in the Port Huron area.

MIZ069

Oakland

09	1000EST	0	0	6K	Flood
11	0500EST				

In Southfield, flood waters from the Rouge River surrounded five homes. In Wixom, an apartment complex saw its parking lot and basements flood thanks to Norton Creek.

MIZ060

Shiawassee

09	1400EST	0	0	20K	Flood
14	0100EST				

The Shiawassee River at Owosso exceeded flood stage of 7 feet at 2 pm on the 9th. The river crested at 8.2 feet at 10 pm on the 10th. After briefly falling below flood stage, the river saw a secondary flood crest of 7.3 feet at 1 am on the 14th.

The Shiawassee River flooded numerous backyards and parks across Shiawassee County. There was brief concern that Shiatown Dam on the river could fail, as its earthen banks were being eroded. Several roads in the area were closed for precautionary measures, but the dam held.

MIZ061

Genesee

09	1530EST	0	0	15K	Flood
10	1300EST				

The Flint River at Flint went above flood stage of 13 feet at 430 pm on the 9th. The river crested at 15.9 feet at 5 am on the 10th.



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MICHIGAN, East

Kearsley Creek in Davison went above flood stage of 10 feet at 330 pm on the 9th, and crested at 11.4 feet at 1 pm on the 10th. Many yards and basements in Grand Blanc were flooded by excessive runoff.

MIZ070

Macomb

09 1800EST
10 2200EST

0 0 5K Flood

The Clinton River at Fraser exceeded flood stage of 16 feet at 6 pm on the 9th. The river crested at 16.2 feet at 1 am on the 10th. In Mt Clemens, the Clinton River rose above flood stage of 16 feet at 130 pm on the 10th, and crested at 16.6 feet at 8 pm. The North Branch of the Clinton rose above flood stage of 15 feet, with a crest of 17.7 feet at 10 pm on the 10th.

The worst flooding occurred along the North Branch. Several roads just north of Mt Clemens had to be closed due to flood waters. Some motorists unwisely tried to drive across flooded roads, and had to be rescued by local law enforcement.

MIZ075-083

Washtenaw - Monroe

09 1900EST
10 0300EST

0 0 18K Wind

Strong winds moved into southeast Michigan just behind a cold front, as a potent low pressure system moved east from Ontario into Quebec. Winds gusted to 45 mph, resulting in branches and power lines downed in Pittsfield Township and in the city of Monroe. Over 2000 utility customers lost power, including over half of downtown Monroe.

MIZ075

Washtenaw

09 2100EST
11 0200EST

0 0 5K Flood

The Huron River in Ann Arbor rose above flood stage of 15 feet at 9 pm on the 9th. The river crested at 15.7 feet at 2 am on the 11th.

There was isolated road flooding across the county, with some cars stalled out in water.

MIZ076

Wayne

10 0015EST
1500EST

0 0 35K Flood

The Rouge River in Detroit went above flood stage of 15 feet at 1215 am on the 10th. The river crested at 16.8 feet at 9 am on the 10th. The Lower Rouge River at Inkster went above flood stage of 10 feet at 4 am on the 10th, and crested at 12.3 feet at 3 pm on the 10th.

Up to 40 vehicles got stuck on flooded roads in Wayne County.

MIZ053

Saginaw

10 0300EST
11 1300EST

0 0 50K Flood

The Shiawassee River at Fergus rose above flood stage of 10 feet, cresting at about 12.5 feet at 1 pm on the 11th. The Cass River at Frankenmuth rose above flood stage of 17 feet at 3 am on the 10th, cresting at 20.4 feet at 11 am on the 10th.

A pedestrian bridge across the Shiawassee River in Chesaning was damaged by debris - mainly chunks of ice - carried downstream by the swollen river. In Taymouth Township, a dike burst along the Flint River, flooding fields near the community of Fosters.

MIZ082

Lenawee

10 1000EST
11 1900EST

0 0 15K Flood

The River Raisin at Adrian exceeded flood stage of 13 feet at 1 pm on the 10th. The river crested at 14.9 feet at 130 pm on the 11th. Downstream, the River Raisin at Blissfield rose above flood stage of 683 feet at 1 pm on the 11th. There, the crest was 683.2 feet at 7 pm on the 11th.

Water remained over some roads in the Blissfield area into the 12th. Roads were also flooded west of Adrian, and near Hudson. One vehicle was floated by the flood waters - the occupants were rescued off the hood of the car.



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MICHIGAN, East

MIZ054

Tuscola

10	1300EST	0	0	30K	Flood
11	1400EST				

The Cass River in Vassar exceeded flood stage of 14 feet at 1 pm on the 10th. It crested at 14.8 feet at 2 pm on the 11th. The flood waters of the Cass covered two streets in downtown Vassar. Roads and basements were flooded across the Cass City area after almost two inches of rain. One motorist had to be rescued when she tried to drive across a flooded road. Water poured into the basement of the city movie theater, damaging records and other archives. Ten to twenty roads were closed across Tuscola County.

MIZ083

Monroe

10	1900EST	3	0	25K	Flood
13	1200EST				

The River Raisin at Dundee crested at flood stage of 650 feet at 1 am on the 13th. Further downstream, the River Raisin at Monroe rose above flood stage of 9 feet at 7 pm on the 10th. The river crested at 9.4 feet at noon on the 13th. Flooded basements and roads were common across Monroe County. Some underpasses in the city of Monroe were flooded. The worst tragedy of the flood event occurred in Dundee Township. A pickup truck carrying four young people attempted to cross a road covered by flood waters of the Saline River. After the truck got in up to its headlights, the driver tried to return the way he came by backing up. Unfortunately, the truck backed off the side of the road, and into a ditch filled with 10 feet of water. The truck quickly sank. One occupant of the back seat managed to squeeze out of a rear passenger window and swim to safety. The other three occupants drowned.

M22VE, M21VE, F18VE

MIZ068

Livingston

12	2040EST	0	0	Flood
13	2100EST			

The Huron River in Hamburg rose above flood stage of 7 feet at 840 pm on the 12th. The river crested at 7.2 feet at 9 pm on the 13th.

A strong low pressure moved northeast from the central plains, passing across northern Michigan on the 9th. This low brought heavy precipitation to southeast Michigan, mainly in the form of rain. Rainfall amounts on the 8th and 9th ranged from one to two and a half inches. With substantial snowmelt thanks to one to two feet of snow on the ground, runoff production was quite large. Numerous rivers flooded over the following few days, and basement and road flooding were widespread.

MIZ055

Sanilac

19	2200EST	1	0	Extreme Cold
20	0400EST			

A Moore Township man was driving about two miles from his home when his vehicle went off the road and into a ditch. The man attempted to walk home, but collapsed and died of hypothermia about a half mile from his truck. Temperatures were in the 20s. The man was not wearing a coat, instead using a heavy flannel shirt as an extra clothing layer over a t-shirt.

M38OU

MIZ053-063-069>070-076 **Saginaw - St. Clair - Oakland - Macomb - Wayne**

24	0600EST	0	0	2K	Ice Storm
	2200EST				

A low pressure system exiting the central plains pushed a warm front north into Indiana and Ohio. A wintry mix of precipitation broke out north of the warm front, with freezing rain being the dominant precipitation type. In a few locations, ice storm criteria was



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MICHIGAN, East

just barely reached, with ice accumulations around a quarter inch. The ice produced relatively little tree and power line damage, though it may have contributed to damage done the next day in strong winds. One power line in Waterford gave way late on the 24th. The line fell onto a building and ignited a fire, destroying a dentist office.

The biggest effect of the ice was on area roads. I-475 in Flint was closed for a couple of hours due to accidents on the ice. A propane tanker rolled and leaked on I-75 north of Birch Run, closing the freeway for 16 hours. The driver of the tanker was hospitalized. An accident on US-23 in Fenton injured three.

The warm front continued north across the area during the night of the 24th. The warmer air changed the freezing rain to rain.

MIZ075

Washtenaw

25 0100EST
1800EST

0

0

Flood

The Saline River in Saline exceeded flood stage of 10 feet at 1 am on the 25th. The river crested at 11 feet at 6 pm on the 25th.

MIZ060-076-083

Shiawassee - Wayne - Monroe

25 1000EST
1800EST

0

0

35K

High Wind (G52)

A strong cold front moved across lower Michigan on the 25th. Very windy conditions occurred behind the front, with gusts of 40 to 50 mph common. In a few places, high wind criteria was reached. Detroit Metropolitan Airport measured a peak gust of 60 mph, while Monroe had a 58 mph gust. A cluster of trees was downed in Laingsburg in Shiawassee County, and a nearby roof was stripped of shingles. Nearby Owosso measured a 50 mph gust. Elsewhere in southeast Michigan, scattered areas saw power lines and tree limbs downed. About 85,000 Detroit Edison customers in metro Detroit lost power at some point during the day. Genesee County experienced numerous small fires thanks to downed power lines, with winds gusting to 48 mph at Flint Bishop Airport. Traffic signals malfunctioned in St Clair County.

MIZ053

Saginaw

25 1300EST
27 0700EST

0

0

Flood

The Shiawassee River at Fergus rose above flood stage of 10 feet at 1 pm on the 25th. The river crested at 11.6 feet at 8 pm on the 25th. The Cass River at Frankenmuth rose above flood stage of 17 feet at 8 pm on the 26th. It crested at 18 feet at 7 am on the 27th.

A low pressure system passing to the north brought significant precipitation back to southeast Michigan. Around an inch of precipitation occurred, the majority of which was rain, although wintry precipitation also occurred. Snowmelt added to the runoff. Many rivers were still running high from the flooding of two weeks previous. A few instances of relatively minor river flooding resulted.